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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 54
By Dixon

A RESOLUTION to continue the special joint committee created to study the transfer of certain social service programs to state governments via the use of federal block grants.

WHEREAS, there continues to be much discussion within the halls and chambers of the United State Congress concerning various proposals to transfer administrative responsibility for many social service programs from the federal government to the receptive state governments via increased utilization of federal block grants; and

WHEREAS, the implications of such proposed transfers are significant and far-reaching and would dramatically affect the lives of many Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, it is important for this General Assembly to carefully examine the proposed transfers and to help ensure that the various agencies of state government are adequately prepared to address these monumental and historic policy shifts in a timely and effective manner; and

WHEREAS, House Joint Resolution No. 301, adopted during the 1995 session of the Ninety-Ninth General Assembly, created a special joint committee to study such proposed transfers; and

WHEREAS, Senate Joint Resolution No. 313 was subsequently adopted during the 1996 session of the same General Assembly to continue the special joint committee; and

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WHEREAS, at this time, the scope and details of the proposed transfers remain unclear and largely unresolved, thereby rendering committee recommendations premature; and

WHEREAS, caution and prudence require that more time be extended to the special joint committee to perform its important duties; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That the special joint committee created by House Joint Resolution No. 301 and continued by Senate Joint Resolution No. 313 of the 99th General Assembly, is hereby continued for a period of one (1) year, and is directed to report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the One-Hundredth General Assembly no later than February 1, 1998, at which time the committee shall cease to exist.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That all legislative members of the special joint committee who are duly elected members of the General Assembly shall remain members of such committee until the committee reports its findings and recommendations, provided such members continue to serve as members of the General Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That vacancies on the special joint committee shall be filled by the original appointing authority as specified in HJR No. 301 of the 99th General Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate is directed to deliver copies of this resolution to the Commissioner of Finance and Administration, the Commissioner of Human Services, the Executive Director of the Tennessee Commission on Aging, the Tennessee Association of Community Action Agencies, the Tennessee Head Start Association and the Tennessee Association of Human Resources Agencies.